

curriculum, the introduction of the master's degree programs in occupational and physical therapy, and a unique partnership with Saint Louis University in South Kansas City at the Ignatius Center. In his own life, education played a significant part in shaping his role as a leader for our community and nation. Fr. Thom obtained an undergraduate degree in philosophy and sociology from Boston College, held a doctor of education and a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University, and a master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of California at Berkeley.

Instructed in the Jesuit tradition and officially ordained in 1979, Fr. Thom always aimed for high intellectual and ethical standards and moral responsibility. He was a trailblazer who celebrated diversity, respect and true justice. In each aspect of his life he sought to bring about goodness. Even with a full workload and schedule, he could be heard in a lively debate on Sunday mornings on the radio as one of the hosts of "Religion on the Line." His past roles in our community are evidence of his conscientious and generous intentions. As Co-Chairman of FOCUS Kansas City, Chairman of the Missouri Humanities Council, Vice President of the Kansas City Chapter of Phil Beta Kappa, Trustee of the Liberty Memorial Association, Member of the Menninger Clinic Board of Directors, the Kauffman Foundation Board of Trustees, the Midwest Research Institute Board of Trustees, the Preferred Health Professionals Board of Directors, and the Holocaust Memorial Advisory Board, Fr. Thom demonstrated his personal commitment to many worthy causes. He wrote for several publications and newspapers to share his views on board governance, trustees, Catholicism, and pedagogical issues.

Fr. Thom Savage is truly an inspiration for all who knew him and were touched by his innumerable acts of kindness. His sharp, honed wit and personable, outgoing nature were character trademarks and will be sorely missed. Along with many others from our region and across the nation, I mourn the death of this outstanding man. He will long be recognized as a hero, an agent of change, a champion for the underprivileged, a spiritual leader, and most importantly a friend to everyone in my community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending sympathy to his mother and the entire Savage family.

ORION INTERNATIONAL  
TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Orion International Technologies, Inc., the 1999 recipient of the U.S. Small Business Administration's National Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year award.

Since its formation in 1985 by cofounders Dr. Miguel Rios, Jr., and his wife Maria Estela Rios, numerous Federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, Department of

Energy, Federal Aviation Administration, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, have come to rely on Orion's technical excellence and proven contract performance. In addition to the company's commitment to technical achievement, Orion's highly dedicated staff and allegiance to customer service and satisfaction are the foundation for this company's success.

Although headquartered in Albuquerque, NM, over the last 14 years, Orion has experienced controlled, continuous growth, which has resulted in the establishment of satellite offices in Puerto Rico, Massachusetts, Texas, and Virginia. This success and growth would not be possible without the outstanding leadership, vision, and talents of Dr. and Mrs. Rios and Mr. Felix Sanchez.

Under Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Miguel Rios, Jr., President and Chief Operating Officer Mr. Felix Sanchez, and Executive Vice President for Governmental Affairs Mrs. Maria Estela Rios, Orion has become one of the Southwest's premier providers of high-quality engineering products and services. Orion's success did not come overnight, but through hard work and perseverance this small business achieved the American dream.

I, for one, am inspired by this accomplishment.

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO JUNE  
WALLIN

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine work and outstanding public service of my very dear friend, June Wallin. June would have been recognized by a grateful community for her many years of volunteer service to the Chaffey Community Republican Women, Federated with a tribute in her honor on Friday, June 25. Sadly, she passed away Monday night.

June Wallin was active in local Republican Party politics for nearly 40 years. Over the years, she showed enormous dedication and gained the enduring respect of many people within the Republican Party. Many will feel the loss of her spirit and drive in our local party.

June began her service as member of the San Bernardino County Central Committee in 1963, and served five times as its chairman. She joined the California Central Committee in 1965 and was awarded the Gold Key for service in 1984 and 1986. She was a delegate to every Republican convention from 1976 to 1992, and served as a California delegate to the Electoral College in 1988. For many people, June Wallin is the heart and soul of the party in San Bernardino County.

June's work and commitment was particularly instrumental to the long-term success of the Federation of Republican Women, where she served as president at the local and state level, as well as on the national board of directors.

Over the years, June has been widely recognized for her contributions to our local com-

munity. She was a charter member of the San Bernardino County Adult Correctional Advisory Council, chairman of the county's Commission on the Status of Women, chairman of the Domestic Violence Task Force and chairman of the local board for the Selective Service System. She was a Grand Juror, an election board trainer and a tutor in the literacy program. She has been active with the Upland First United Methodist Church and the Assistance League of Upland.

Always remaining active, June strongly supported her husband, Ray Wallin, in his activities as a member of the Masons and Shrine. She put in more than 3,000 hours as a volunteer for the San Antonio Community Hospital Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions of this remarkable woman. June Wallin made a difference in the lives of so many people in our local community and I am grateful beyond words for her long and dedicated service.

RECOGNITION OF HOPE ELIZABETH BROWN, LOYAL HIGHWAY CONTRACT LETTER CARRIER FOR THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

**HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hope Elizabeth Brown, a resident of Exeter, Rhode Island, who will retire on June 30, 1999, from carrying mail for the Exeter Post Office. Ms. Brown is particularly remarkable in her dedication and loyalty to the United States Postal Service and the state of Rhode Island because of the length of her service. This extraordinary woman—who, in the words of a coworker, is now "eighty-three years young"—has worked for the Postal Service for sixty years.

Except for two years during World War II when Ms. Brown acted as Postmaster in Exeter, all the years of her employment were spent delivering mail in Exeter and nearby Slocum. And, as we all know, our letter carriers work six days a week, fifty-two weeks a year, through rain, sleet, and snow. Ms. Brown certainly contributed to that reputation; in her sixty years of service, she missed work only because of family sorrows.

Ms. Brown's work ethic and dedication to the people she serves has been mirrored by the devotion shown her by her family, friends, and coworkers. Although she still insists on placing the mail in the boxes herself, members of her family support her by driving the route, as she no longer always feels capable of handling the delivery truck on the highway. The current Postmaster of Exeter, Mr. Thomas Fisher, recently wrote of Ms. Brown that she "exemplifies the spirit of America's mail system," and that, furthermore, "her dedication, commitment, and honesty is surpassed only by her love for the mail." On June 19, her community will honor her with a retirement party at the American Legion Hall in North

Kingstown, Rhode Island, a well-deserved tribute to her service and example to us all.

In today's booming economy, we sometimes forget to recognize and celebrate the workers who, simply by doing their jobs faithfully and well every day, ensure that this country continues to thrive. Ms. Brown, through her work as a Highway Contract Letter Carrier, has made an amazing contribution both to her community and, by extension, to her country as a whole. Without people like her, who show up for work every day without excuse or complaint, we would not be enjoying the economic prosperity we have today. Although her type of work ethic should be the norm, it should never be taken for granted, and we must always remember to thank the people who work hard for us. Please join with me in the long-overdue appreciation of Hope Elizabeth Brown and other dedicated workers like her.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS J.  
D'ALESSANDRO III, ESQ.

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas J. D'Alessandro, III who was recently awarded the distinguished President's Medal by his alma mater, Loyola College of Baltimore, at Loyola's commencement ceremonies on May 18, 1999.

Thomas D'Alessandro is one of Baltimore's great civic leaders whose leadership as Mayor of Baltimore came at a crucial time during the city's history. His dedication to the principles of justice and equality helped advance the cause of civil rights in Baltimore. Grounded in a personal commitment to these values, he led his community with a moral authority, championing landmark legislation for all he represented.

Thomas J. D'Alessandro, III is part of a legendary political family. The D'Alessandros are the "first family of Baltimore politics" and a classic American success story. Thomas' father, Thomas D'Alessandro, Jr. was also a great Mayor of Baltimore and later served as a Member of Congress. His mother, Nancy D'Alessandro, was a major figure in Baltimore politics in her own right and was described by former Governor William Schafer as "a very fiery woman, loved her kids, and was superb to old Tommy. She was a Democrat through and through." His only sister NANCY was elected to the Congress in 1987, and has distinguished herself as a great civic leader of her adopted City of San Francisco and is considered one of the most widely regarded Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, character blooms in critical moments of choice. At that moment, complacency must give way to action, the expected must be set aside for what is just. Thomas D'Alessandro's resolute leadership as President of the City Council resulted in the passage of Baltimore's landmark Civil Rights Act. He later said that this legislation grew not from political expediency but from a moral imperative instilled in him by his years of Jesuit education.

After serving as President of the Baltimore City Council, Thomas J. D'Alessandro, III fol-

lowed in his father's footsteps and was elected Mayor in 1967. During his term as Mayor, Baltimore saw advancement in nearly every avenue of equal opportunity from housing to employment. Through criticism and praise alike, he maintained his distinctive presence of straightforwardness and honesty. It was because of his leadership that Baltimore was kept calm for two full days after the tragic assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The Jesuits of Loyola College look with pride at the extraordinary contributions that Thomas D'Alessandro has made. His service to his community, his devotion to his family, and his commitment to the faith and values taught at Loyola represent the "Jesuit ideal" that the Society of Jesus seeks to instill in their pupils. It is truly fitting that Loyola honors him with its President's Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in honoring Thomas D'Alessandro, III for his historic contributions to civic life in Baltimore and congratulate him on being awarded the prestigious Loyola President's Award for a life lived by the highest ideals of service to humankind.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO GEORGE  
COX FOR HIS SERVICE AND PA-  
TRITISM TO THE VETERANS OF  
FOREIGN WARS

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay very special tribute to an outstanding individual from the state of Ohio, George Cox. This weekend, in Columbus, Ohio, a very special celebration will take place marking the 100th Anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Speaker, George Cox is currently serving as the State Commander for the Ohio Veterans of Foreign Wars and has been instrumental in organizing the 100th Anniversary celebration. Through his efforts over the years, George Cox has helped make the Ohio VFW one of the premier veterans service organizations in the nation.

Without question, George Cox has taken his love of country and his commitment to duty and honor very seriously. He served valiantly during the Korean Conflict with the First Marine Division. In 1968, Mr. Cox joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars and has achieved success over the years serving as State Commander, District Commander, and Post Commander. He is currently a member of VFW Post 6772 in Spencerville, Ohio.

Not only has George Cox given much to the VFW, he has shown unwavering devotion to many other activities as well. He has served on the Allen County Veterans Commission, American Legion Post 191, and retired from the Ford Motor Company after forty-two years with the company. In addition, George spends time working with children at the national home, in parades, and at Post 6772 events. George also founded a Christmas party for underprivileged children in Spencerville.

Mr. Speaker, George Cox is a remarkable person. A dedicated family man, he and his

wife, Mary, have been married for forty-six years and have a wonderful family. He has unselfishly given his time and energy to serve veterans from across the state of Ohio and for that we owe him our profound thanks.

At this point, I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to the Ohio State VFW Commander, George Cox, and to everyone attending the 100th Anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We wish you the very best both now and in the future.

THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, the Marriage Tax Penalty should be repealed.

As we prepare to celebrate Fathers Day on June 20, Congress would do well to seize the occasion by repealing the pernicious laws which attack the institution of marriage.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of my home State of Colorado for establishing official policy opposed to the marriage tax penalty. Under the visionary leadership of Colorado State Representative Andy McElhany, and State Senator Ken Arnold, the Colorado General Assembly has established its official position on this matter by virtue of its passage of Colorado House Joint Resolution 99-1055.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD, and for the consideration of our colleagues, H.J.R. 99-1055. This important Resolution urges us to repeal all taxes which penalize marriage, and I urge my colleagues to follow the wise example of Colorado policy.\*\*\*HD\*\*\*House Joint Resolution 99-1055

Whereas, The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the federal income tax system imposes a marriage tax penalty on twenty-three million Americans; and

Whereas, The marriage tax penalty discourages hard work by penalizing dual-income married couples more than any other individuals; and

Whereas, Under the federal income tax system, married individuals have smaller standard deductions, earlier loss of itemized deductions and personal exemptions, a smaller capital loss deduction, and a double loss of IRA deductions when compared to single individuals; and

Whereas, The marriage tax penalty has a severe impact on the working poor; and

Whereas, It is unfair and inappropriate for the federal government to impose an additional income tax penalty on married individuals; and

Whereas, Several bills to eliminate the federal marriage tax penalty are presently pending before the United States Congress; and

Whereas, The elimination of the federal marriage tax penalty is an important step in creating a fairer and simpler federal income tax system; now, therefore be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*